

NEWTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD

NEWTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER – MOROCCO, IN

August 20, 2012 11:00 A.M.

The Newton County Drainage Board met on August 20, 2012 at 11:00 AM with the following persons present: Board Members – Chairman Russ Collins, Jim Pistello, Tim Drenth; County Engineer Larry Holderly; County Surveyor Chris Knochel; Drainage Board Attorney Dan Blaney; Secretary Debra Chapman Risley; Auditor Sharon Dewing; LeAnn Sale. Russ called the meeting to order.

Minutes – Jim made a motion to approve the August 6, 2012 minutes with a second from Tim. Motion carried and minutes were signed.

Narrows Main & Laterals – Chris mentioned that Doug DeYoung is here regarding the Narrows Main & Laterals. When this was started both sections needed repaired at the time and the assessment rate was set at \$15.00/ac. Several hearings were held and it was agreed that the Main would be done and the laterals at a later time. There was no response at the time from the landowners so the assessment was lowered. Now Chris is getting accounts of drain work having been done. If the landowners dipped the ditch, they have not asked for help, but they are in need of culverts, etc. Chris stated he had sent a letter to landowners with a brief history of the drain, informing them of the lowered assessment and asked them to bring any needed repairs to our attention. As a result Doug stated he is here for information. In talking with Doug, Chris said he is not sure which ditch is directly involved in his case so Chris will do further review and get back with Doug and the board.

Financial Reports & Proposals – Russ closed the receipt of bids for the Wm. Whaley Surface Reconstruction and the Long Ditch. **Wm. Whaley** - Deb reported that the Wm. Whaley owes the GDIF \$2,632.42 and that the recommended assessment is \$1.50/ac on 760.04 acres for eight years. This would bring in \$1140.06/yr. Chris' estimate for the project is \$10,501.20. The first proposal was from JD Excavating in the amount of \$10,500.00; Tony Garriott in the amount of \$8,500; Grube Construction in the amount of \$9,100.00. **Jim made a motion to accept the proposal of Garriott in the amount of \$8,500.00 as long as it meets Chris' specs.** **Long Ditch** – Deb reported that the Long Ditch currently has a cash balance in the amount of \$3,656.64 and brings in \$8,401.80/yr. Chris' estimate for all three phases of this project is \$30,245.00. Five proposals were received and they are as follows: E.W. Mattocks & Sons \$10,080.00; Ronnie Madison \$12,290.00; JD Excavating \$32,500; Tony Garriott \$20,810; Grube Construction \$21,100.00. **Jim made a motion to accept the proposal of Mattocks & Sons in the amount of \$10,080.00 as long as it meets Chris' specifications – if not then Ronnie Madison in the amount of \$12,290.00 as long as his proposal meets Chris' specs.** **Tim seconded the motion and the motion carried.** It was asked what the phases are for the Long Ditch to which Chris responded that the first phase is to remove the trees in the middle and the next phase would be to dip the ditch where the trees end on to the west and then continue on.

Sign Contracts – The contracts were signed for the following projects - **Hunter Ditch M-602, Stack – Weiss M-658 and O'Brien Open M-610.**

Battleday Lateral #2 – Chris reported that he had received an estimate in the amount of \$2,500.00 from Beam, Longest & Neff to write a new route narrative for the Battleday Lateral #2. As Chris explained when they traced the existing legal route narrative they found a 6" tile where a 12" tile is supposed to be. We then inadvertently found the 12" tile and the 12" tile is in a different place than where the legal route states it is located. In order to identify where the legal route is supposed to be to connect and continue on up to the industrial park by the landfill, we need to re-write the legal route narrative so that we can continue it on to where we had intended to end it at the industrial park. So Chris had asked BLN to work up an estimate which they submitted in the amount of \$2,500.00 to re-write the legal route narrative. Jim asked if there is money in the fund to which Chris responded that it is the one that expenses are paid from the Special Landfill Drainage Fund. **Jim made a motion to approve BLN to rewrite the legal narrative per their estimate of \$2,500.00. Tim seconded the motion and the motion carried.**

Upper Beaver Lake – Landowner Initiative Report – Chris reported that he had sent letters to the landowners and had met with some of them on Friday to discuss the Upper Beaver Lake. We have included more landowners in the

dialogue. There are enough landowners that are not interested in the mutual agreement proposed by the original landowners that now it has swayed more toward the assessment process. Historically the drain has been worked on piece by piece as each landowner owned the land and some of it has never been repaired. The landowners last suggested that we take it back, define the watershed and fix the drain. They asked Chris to estimate the cost of how much it would cost per acre for them to do the work in the upper part of Beaver Lake. Jim said the watershed needs defined before Chris can define the scope of work. Chris will complete that and bring the report back to the board. Chris stated it is landowner initiative and sometimes you just have to help them work through the process. He is meeting with the landowners again on Friday.

Other Matters – Contractor Registration - Deb mentioned that five of the ten contractors to whom we regularly send Notice to Bidder packets are not currently registered in Newton County. Chris had told Deb that in the past the board has just “let this fly”. Jim said he was unaware of this situation and would withdraw the motion if they don’t register. The board asked Deb to send a letter to those that are not registered and if they do not register then they will not be awarded the projects. As long as the two contractors from whom bids were accepted today get registered then we can go ahead. Otherwise the motions will be withdrawn. **The board agreed that all contractors performing work in the county need to be registered.** Deb told the board that she has a copy of the letter from the building department regarding the registration process that she will send to the contractors. **Reminders –** Russ reminded everyone of the Bi-County Drainage Hearing at the Jasper County Fairgrounds on 8/21/12 @ 1:00 PM and also the Newton County Drainage Board Hearings scheduled for Sept. 17th @ 1:30 PM.

Sumava bill – Jim asked to see the bill submitted from Ronnie Madison for his work on the Sumava pipe and gate. Jim asked if this bill includes Pete’s bill to which Deb said it did not include Pete’s work and she has not yet received a bill from Pete. The bill from Ronnie amounted to \$10, 578. **Jim made the motion to pay Ronnie from the GDIF and then review the other bills at the September meeting. Tim seconded the motion and the motion carried.**

There being no other business Tim made a motion to adjourn with a second from Jim. Motion carried.